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THE POP EYE

Continued from 80th Page
beloved by critics but which has bounced from label to label without any commercial success.

"Radio frequently takes a cautious stance with bands that don't have a brand-name identity," said Libow, whose office walls are plastered with Blues Brothers posters, platinum records and two maps of the United States. "Once somebody's playing a record, he doesn't care about the band's history. The problem is getting them on the air. If I told them it was a Queen record, they'd play it right away."

□

THE BIG SLEEP: Lester Bangs, one of rock's original gonzo journalists, died at 34 here April 30. Authorities have yet to make an official statement as to the cause of death, though Bangs' errant life style led writer Richard Meltzer, a longtime friend, to say that "the assumption is that Lester's body finally gave out on him."

One of rock's most colorful characters, Bangs made his reputation as a pugnacious, participatory journalist who was not above picking fights with rock stars in pursuit of a good interview. Bangs had been an editor at Creem Magazine, wrote regularly for the Village Voice and Rolling Stone and was completing a book called "Rock Gommorah" with Michael Ochs when he died.

"What made him great was his absolute contempt for everybody in the food chain of the record business," Meltzer said last week. "Lester had no respect for the hand that fed him. But what was tragic was that he never gave it up and went on to something else—he never had any other hobbies than rock 'n' roll, and that killed him."

□

BITES FROM THE BIG APPLE: In Fun City last week: The Iron City Houserockers at the Lone Star Cafe; local dandies Kid Creole and the Coconuts making a rare live appearance at the Ritz and Graham Parker at the Palladium, with a band which includes ex-Bowie guitarist Carlos Alomar and longtime sidekick Brinsley Schwartz .

□

AND WAIT, THERE'S MORE: Anybody who doesn't think business is bad in the music industry should take a tour of the New York offices of West Coast-based record companies, which looked about as crowded as a disco at 9 a.m. Staff cuts have been so severe at one major company that nobody on the skeleton staff even had a secretary . . . Who says the papers here don't cover rock news? When Rod Stewart had his car stolen recently, the New York Post plastered his mug across the front page with a huge headline, "ROD STEWART MUGGED !" You had to buy the paper before you could find out that Stewart was in California when it happened. . . .

□

THE 10TH AVENUE FREEZE OUT: The city also is the home of Michael Plen, one of the key people behind the success of the Go-Go's and one of rock's most outspoken young record execs. The I.R.S. promo chief has become a minor cult hero here by regularly taking pot shots at timid radio programmers. Unlike his fellow promo men (and women), who practice the art of friendly persuasion, Plen cheerfully refers to many leading radio programmers as "geeks."

Needless to say, Plen seemed the perfect candidate to give the real low-down on the New York scene. Here's his verdict on:

New York radio: "Dismal—the leading rock stations here don't play anything unless it's an established national act. WPLJ-FM, which was once one of the country's greatest progressive rock stations, now has a play list of 15 current records and a lot of oldies. No one here is even in the same ballpark as KROQ."

New York music scene: "To sum it up, it's disappointing. The last great band to come out of the city was Talking Heads. It's as if the scene is a record that's skipping and waiting for someone to pick it up and move it to the next groove. Everybody tries too hard to be hip here. The most successful bands are the ones who don't come from the city, who just play around, leave and come back."

New York rock press: "The New York Rocker is a real force in exposing new bands, but the daily newspaper coverage is scanty and the Village Voice goes in for so much critical perspective that you don't know whether they liked the band or not. Most people end up depending on word of mouth." □

AM RADIO HIGHLIGHTS FM

KABC	790	KLAC	570
KALI	1430	KLIT	1220
KBRT	740	KMPC	710
KDAY	1580	KNSE	1510
KEZY	1190	KNX	1070
KFAC	1330	KPPC	1240
KFI	640	KRLA	1110
KFRN	1280	KTNQ	1020
KFWB	980	KTYM	1460
KGER	1390	KWIZ	1480
KGFJ	1230	KWKW	1300
KGIL	1260	KWOW	1600
KGOE	850	KWRM	1370
KGRB	900	KZLA	1540
KHJ	930	XEGM	950
KIEV	870	XPRS	1090
KPRZ	1150	XTRA	690
KKTT	1230		

KACE	103.9	KNJO	92.7
KBIG	104.3	KNOB	97.9
KBOB	98.3	KNTF	93.5
KCRW	89.9	KNX	93.1
KCSN	88.5	KOCM	103.1
KDUO	97.5	KOST	103.5
KEZY	95.9	KPCC	89.3
KFAC	92.3	KPFK	90.7
KFOX	93.5	KQLH	95.1
KFSG	96.3	KROQ	106.7
KGIL	94.3	KRTH	101.1
KHOF	99.5	KSAK	90.1
KHTZ	97.1	KSPC	88.7
KIIS	102.7	KSRF	103.1
KIK	94.3	KSUL	90.1
KIQQ	100.3	KUSC	91.5
KJLH	102.3	KUTE	101.9
KJOI	98.7	KWIZ	96.7
KKGO	105.1	KWST	105.9
KLON	88.1	KWVE	107.9
KLOS	95.5	KXLU	88.9
KLVE	107.5	KYMS	106.3
KMAX	107.1	KZLA	93.9
KMET	94.7		
KNAC	105.5		

DISC JOCKEY, CONVERSATION AND SPORTS COMMENTARY PROGRAMS ARE LISTED WITH MONDAY'S RADIO LOG.

DOCUMENTARY

4 p.m.—"I Remember Mama," mothering from different points of view, KPFK-FM (90 7)

DRAMA

5 p.m.—Sherlock Holmes, "Murder by Proxy," KCSN-FM (88 5)

9:30 p.m.—Heartbeat Theater, "Privileged Communication" by Dennis Whitcomb, KLAC (570)

INTERVIEW

6:30 a.m.—Environmental Directions, KWST-FM (106 1)

8 a.m.—Focus On, discussion of hypnosis, KRLA (1110)

9 p.m.—KRLA Connection, Mario Machado discusses employment and small business, KRLA (1110)

MUSIC: CLASSICAL

7 a.m.—Saint Paul Sunday Morning, music by Handel, Copland, Debussy, KPCC-FM (89 3)

Noon—Los Angeles Philarmonic, Giuseppe Sinopoli conducts, Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano, KUSC-FM (91 5)

1 p.m.—Sunday Opera, Gilbert and Sullivan, "Iolanthe," KPFK-FM (90 7)

7 p.m.—The Chorus Line, features the Robert Shaw Chorale, KFAC (1330 AM, 92 3 FM)

7 p.m.—"Star Studded Giulini," features Placido Domingo, KUSC-FM (91 5)

9 p.m.—Delta Opera House, Verdi, "Aida," KFAC (1330 AM, 92 3 FM)

MUSIC: POP

8 a.m.—The Rock Years, features the year 1975, KMET-FM (94 7)

9 a.m.—The Sunday Show, KCRW-FM (89 9)

9 a.m.—American Country Countdown, KHJ (930)

9 a.m.—American Top 40, KIIS-FM (102 7)

9 a.m.—Weekly Music Magazine, KWST-FM (106 1)

10 a.m.—Musical, guest is Ethel Merman, KPRZ (1150)

Noon—American Music, features Red Nichols, KLON-FM (88 1)

2 p.m.—The Reggae Beat, "Bob Marley Memorial," part II, KCRW-FM (89 9)

4:30 p.m.—Jazz Alive, features Les McCann, Ernie Watts, KSBR-FM (88 5)

5 p.m.—King Biscuit Flower Hour, features Huey Lewis and the News, Bobby and the Midnites, KLOS-FM (95 5)

5 p.m.—Off the Record with Mary Turner, features ZZ Top, KMET-FM (94 7)

6 p.m.—Chuck Cecil's Swingin' Years, Big Band year 1937, KGIL (1260)

6 p.m.—Dr Demento, KMET-FM (94 7)

6 p.m.—Dick Clark National Music Survey, KRLA (1110)

9 p.m.—Country Sessions, features Tammy Wynette, KHJ (930)

9:30 p.m.—Folk Scene, features Priscilla Herdman, KPFK-FM (90 7)

OLD-TIME RADIO

3 p.m.—Science Fiction with Captain Radio, "Suspense," KCSN-FM (88 5)

SPORTS

10 a.m.—Baseball Dodgers vs Expos, KABC (790)

1 p.m.—Baseball Angels vs Orioles, KMPC (710)

TALK

8 a.m.—Impact, Toni Carabillo, president of the L.A. chapter of NOW, joins Michael Benner, KLOS-FM (95 5)

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